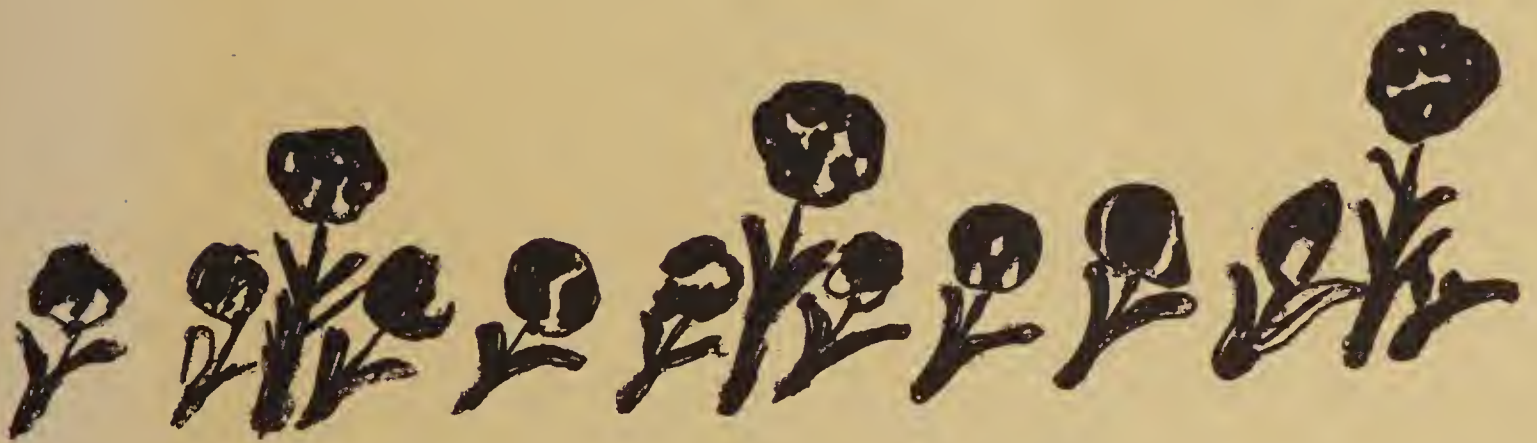
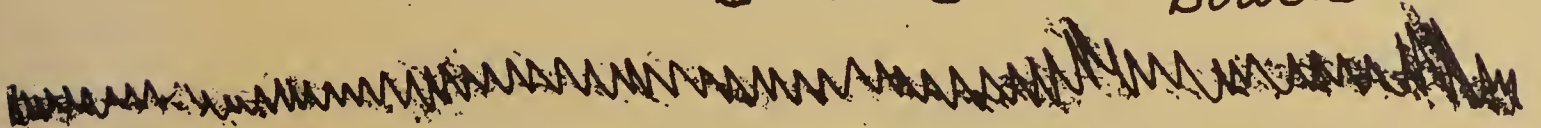


LITTLE GIRLS GROW UP

The Hamilton Story



By Courtney
Bowers



This book
is dedicated
to the children
of Fort Wayne
at
the turn of the century
December 1999

Editors
Taylor Gambill
Luc Lothamer
Zachary Sorg
Eden Stewart
Hannah Zix

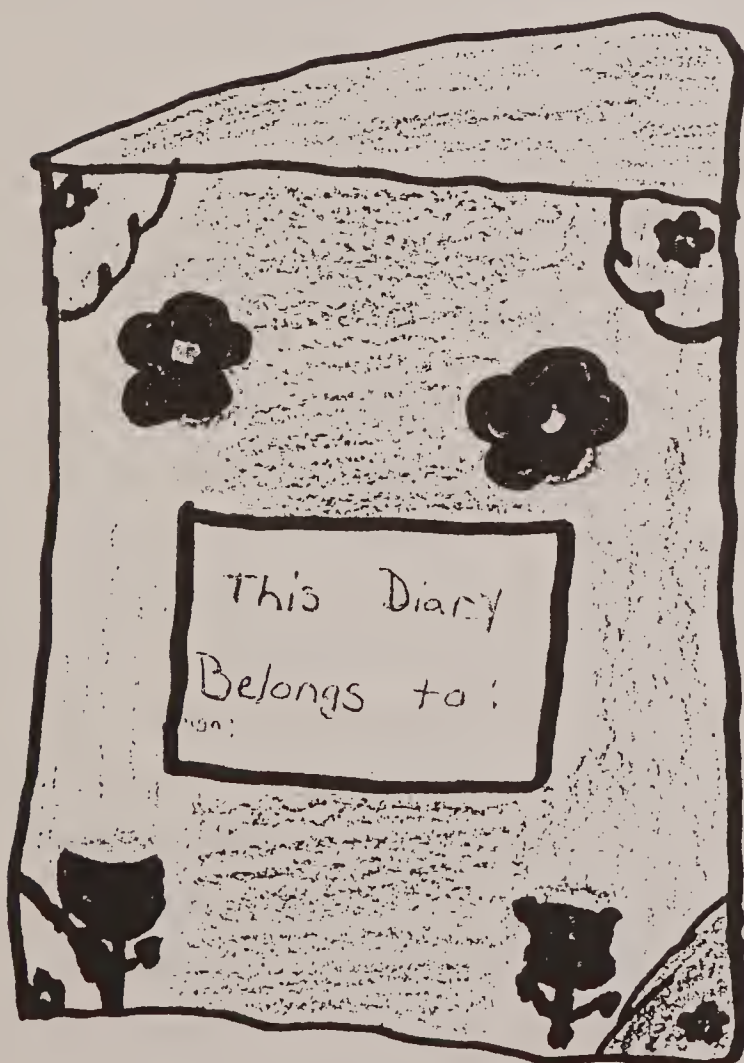
Brentwood 4th graders 1999-2000

Little Girls Grow Up

Christmas Diaries

of

Edith
Alice
and
Agnes



By Danielle Malone

Edith

Thank you Grandmother Emerine for my Christmas diary. Today is January 3, 1877, and it is snowing large, white stars. All of Fort Wayne is resting under a soft, frosty blanket.

My name is Edith Hamilton, and I am nearly 10 years old. I was born in Dresden, Germany where my father, Montgomery, and my mother, Gertrude, were visiting. But, when I was three months old, I came home to Fort Wayne to live on Lewis Street.

I have three younger sisters. Their names are Alice, Margaret, and Nora, and I have seven Hamilton cousins. Two houses, one called the Homestead and one called the Red House, are next to our home which is called the White House. My grandmother Emerine and my aunts, uncles, and cousins all live in these houses. We have a large, noisy, busy family.

Because I am one of the oldest Hamilton grandchildren, I decide upon the games we play and the stories we act out. I am often Maid Marian when we play Robin Hood, or I am Helen when we fight the battle of Troy. My younger sisters or cousins ask me to read to them, and we always study our lessons together. I am a good student and enjoy learning at home. We do not go to school with other children, but we are taught by our parents and by tutors at home. I particularly like Latin, Greek, French, and Italian, and I read these beautiful words every day.

Edith's words, places, and things:

- 1) Dresden, Germany
- 2) Maid Marian
- 3) Helen of Troy
- 4) tutors
- 5) Latin
- 6) Greek
- 7) French
- 8) Italian

Let's draw Edith:

- 1) Writing in her diary, or
- 2) playing games, or
- 3) studying in her home

Alice

This is a cold January day in the year 1877, and this entry is the first in my Christmas journal. My sister, Edith, says our gifts from Grandmother Emerine are diaries, but I like the word journal better than diary.

I am eight years old and am the second daughter of Montgomery and Gertrude Hamilton, born nearly two years after Edith. I have two younger sisters, Margaret and Nora. Everyone says we Hamiltons are one of Fort Wayne's pioneer families.

My grandfather, Allen Hamilton, arrived in the village of Fort Wayne in 1832 and became a great friend of the native people, the Miamis, who lived on the rim of the Fort. Grandfather became a banker, a merchant, a builder of railroads, and Fort Wayne's first sheriff. Grandfather is dead; but his wife, my grandmother Emerine, is still in charge of our family. She is a lively grandparent who teaches us and encourages us to go out into the world and make a difference. She says we can do anything our hearts and minds tell us to do.

I want to be a doctor. Women doctors are few, but I think I will be able to help people if I study for this life work and give my energy to serving others. Edith will probably be a teacher. She reads to us, makes us listen, and tells us what to do.

Alice's words, places, and things:

- 1) entry
- 2) journal
- 3) pioneer family
- 4) Miamis
- 5) native people
- 6) merchant
- 7) sheriff

Let's draw Alice:

- 1) Remembering Grandfather Allen Hamilton, or
- 2) Remembering Grandmother Emerine, or
- 3) Practicing to be a doctor when she grows up.

Agnes

A Christmas diary is a welcome gift for an eight-year-old with many thoughts to write. My cousins Edith and Alice also received Christmas diaries from Grandmother. I wonder what they will write.

I live in Fort Wayne, Indiana in what we call the Red House near my aunts, uncles, and cousins. My favorite playmates are my two cousins Alice and Allen. We are all three eight years old, and we will always be best friends.

I am excited because next September I will go to public school. None of the Hamilton children study in Fort Wayne schools. They are all taught at home. I am so glad my parents will let me try a "real school."

I have two sisters, but cousin Alice is closer to me than either sister. We both want to grow up and help others. I also enjoy art. Maybe I'll grow up to become an artist or an architect and design houses or buildings.

We all attend First Presbyterian Church and on holidays, our German servants take us to services at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. I am very religious and sometimes think I would like to be a missionary, also. I guess I really don't know what I want to do when I grow up. Perhaps I am not smart like Edith and Alice and won't do anything very well.

Agnes' words, places, and things:

- 1) public schools
- 2) artist
- 3) architect
- 4) First Presbyterian Church
- 5) religious
- 6) missionary
- 7) servants

Let's draw Agnes:

- 1) Telling us about the Red House, the White House, and the Homestead—three Hamilton houses, or
- 2) painting or drawing buildings, or
- 3) going to church.

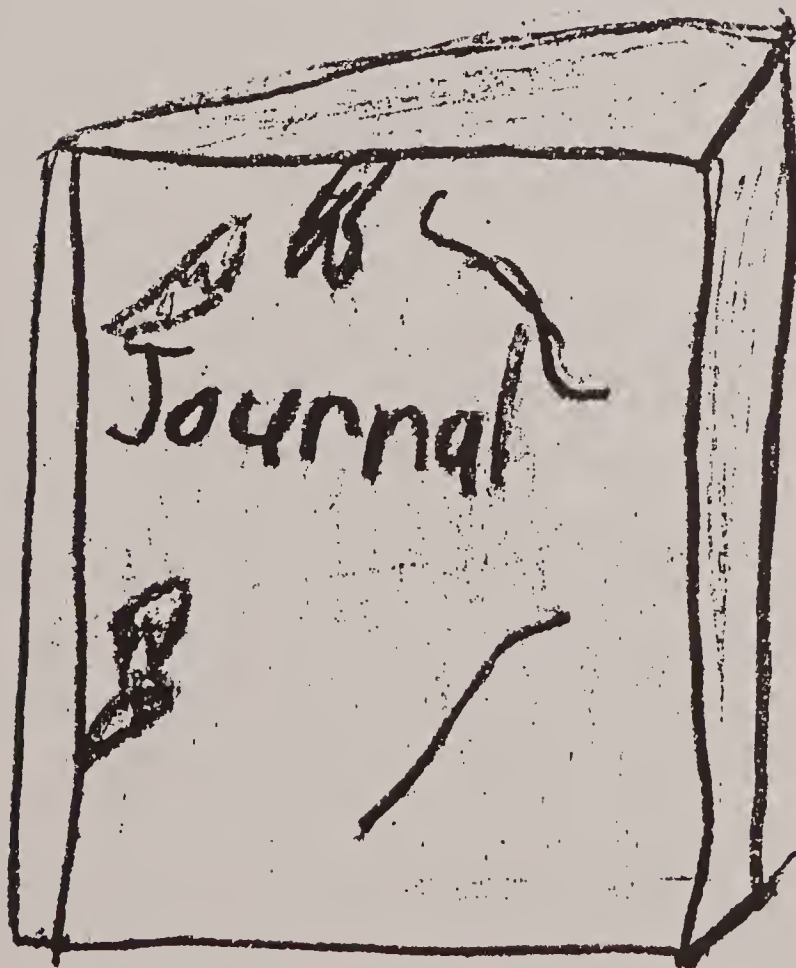


Little Girls Grow Up

Journals

of

Edith
Alice
and
Agnes



By Alan Novatne

Edith

It is Christmas Day of 1957, and I feel every one of my 90 years. The snow falling here at my home in Maine reminds me of Indiana and my childhood winters in Fort Wayne.

What an exciting life I have had. I spent many years as headmistress of the Bryn Mawr girls' school in Baltimore where I taught and enjoyed lasting friendships. Since retiring from teaching, I have begun to write. This new career has brought me much pleasure.

For the past 20 years, I have written stories similar to the fairy tales I loved as a child. My writing is about Greek and Roman mythology. Students read my exciting stories and learn to love the tales. The people who publish my writing think students will read my work for many years to come.

I have had a wonderful life and still visit my sister Alice often. We talk about our early years in Fort Wayne and how much we miss those relatives that are gone. We learned to be strong women and to work hard to make a difference in the world. Grandmother Emerine and our mother, Gertrude, taught us to believe in ourselves. I hope I can be a strong example for girls who want to reach a goal in life.

Edith's words, places, and things:

- 1) Maine
- 2) headmistress
- 3) Baltimore
- 4) career
- 5) mythology
- 6) publish
- 7) goal

Let's write a line or two:

Why do you think Edith Hamilton became a successful, world-famous woman?

Alice

It is a warm February day and my 90th birthday. We are celebrating with a small group of friends here at our home in Haldyme, Connecticut. I think so often of our birthday parties in Fort Wayne when we were children. We had such fun.

I live here now with my sister Margaret. Sister Nora is buried out back in a family plot along side Mama. Sister Edith is now 92 and is well. She visits with us when she is not busy writing yet another book. I am so proud of Edith. Thousands of students read *The Greek Way* and *The Roman Way*. Her words will be read forever.

I, too, have had an exciting career. My life has been dedicated to the poor immigrants who work in America's factories. When I lived and worked at Hull House in Chicago, I chose a career in industrial medicine. I wrote rules and regulations that made working conditions better and factories safer. I spent time in the slums assisting poor families, teaching them to speak English, helping with child care, and making their lives more comfortable.

I have also taught medicine. I retired from Harvard University's Medical School faculty where my efforts brought me many awards. All over this country, Edith and I have been honored for our work and the help we have given others.

Alice's words, places, and things:

- 1) family plot
- 2) immigrants
- 3) Hull House
- 4) industrial medicine
- 5) rules and regulations
- 6) slums
- 7) Harvard University

Let's write a line or two:

Why was Dr. Alice Hamilton important to the poor people who worked in the factories?

Agnes

It is Christmas 1960, and I am once again home in Fort Wayne. No matter where I travel or work, I seem to always return to the city where my heart has been given to others.

My cousins, Edith and Alice, live in the east, and are still writing, studying, and working every day. I am in my 92nd year, and as I look around Fort Wayne, I know my best efforts in helping others have been here.

Whether it has been in establishing Bethany Presbyterian Church on West Main Street, my "Noon Rest" for the working women in Fort Wayne's knitting mill, or in founding the art school here on family land, I know I have made a richer life for the people of Fort Wayne.

I never became an architect. I never wrote books like my cousin Edith. I never became a famous doctor like cousin Alice; however, I made my city, Fort Wayne, a better place in which to live. My efforts to serve women and children have made a great difference.

I continue to sketch and paint. As I have traveled throughout the world and lived a very long life, I have saved my memories through my artwork. Perhaps some day others will enjoy my talent.

Agnes' words, places, and things:

- 1) "Noon Rest"
- 2) knitting mill
- 3) art school
- 4) Bethany Church
- 5) sketch and paint
- 6) talent

Let's write a line or two:

Why was Agnes Hamilton a real Fort Wayne heroine?

December 1999

Come, bring your family and friends to see Edith, Alice, and Agnes Hamilton in Headwaters Park. These famous women who influenced people throughout the world, grew up as little girls in our city of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Please come and visit with them.

*Patty Martone
and the Celebrate 2000 Committee*



*By Luke
Weisenberg*



